

Please add the following claims:

--15. A speech coding method according to code-excited linear prediction (CELP) comprising:

evaluating a noise level of a speech in a concerning coding period by using a code or coding result of at least one of spectrum information, power information, and pitch information; and

changing a noise level of time series vectors output from an excitation codebook based on an evaluation result.

B3 5/57 16. A speech decoding method according to code-excited linear prediction (CELP) comprising:

evaluating a noise level of a speech in a concerning decoding period by using a code or decoding result of at least one of spectrum information, power information, and pitch information; and

changing a noise level of time series vectors output from an excitation codebook based on an evaluation result.

17. A speech coding apparatus according to code-excited linear prediction (CELP) comprising:

a noise level evaluator for evaluating a noise level of a speech in a concerning coding period by using a code or coding result of at least one of spectrum information, power information, and pitch information; and

a noise level controller for changing a noise level of time series vectors output from an excitation codebook based on an evaluation result of the noise level evaluator.

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Cont
18. A speech decoding apparatus according to code-excited linear prediction (CELP) comprising:

a noise level evaluator for evaluating a noise level of a speech in a concerning decoding period by using a code or decoding result of at least one of spectrum information, power information, and pitch information; and

a noise level controller for changing a noise level of time series vectors output from an excitation codebook based on an evaluation result of the noise level evaluator.--
